

Pedersen

MEMORIAL JOURNAL OF WESTERN NORWEGIAN-DANISH METHODISM



JOHN WESLEY
"The World is my Parish"

MARTIN T. LARSON
Editor

DEDICATION



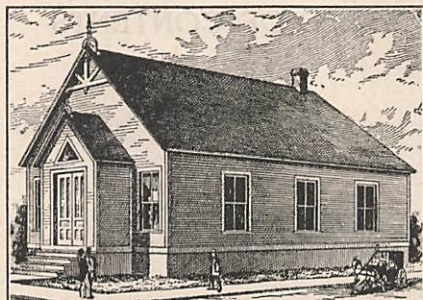
Tribute of Love is hereby recorded for all laymen—all men and women and youth—who, through the years, have given to the Western Norwegian-Danish Conference their loyal devotion, supporting all those engaged in the work of the ministry and helping to provide that they, when aged and no longer able to be active, shall enjoy a modest degree of comfort. This tribute is paid also because of the love and respect which, as laymen, they have had for all those who have served the Church in all branches of its work—at home and abroad—with a willing mind and a glad heart, to the Glory of God and the Extension of His Kingdom!



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MEMORIAL JOURNAL
OF
WESTERN NORWEGIAN-DANISH METHODISM

MARTIN T. LARSON, Editor



The First Norwegian-Danish M. E. Church
West of the Rocky Mountains
at Oakland, California

"The Word of God, our heritage,
Our children shall inherit;
May we throughout life's pilgrimage
Obey it and revere it!
'Tis light upon our way,
In death as life our stay;
O God, from age to age,
Preserve our heritage
Throughout all generations."

Bishop N. F. S. Grundtvig, 1817
(Translated by C. Doving)

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California

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REV. CARL J. LARSEN, D.D.

AN INTRODUCTION TO WESTERN NORWEGIAN- DANISH METHODISM

By Martin T. Larson



MRS. CARL J. LARSEN

The story of Norwegian-Danish Methodism on the Pacific Coast is worthy of a distinctive place in the history of American Methodism. Without it much spiritual value and influence would be lost. Numerically, Norwegian-Danish Methodism was never very strong, but there is a wider aspect and a deeper significance of this branch of Methodism, which can never be expressed by the statistical tables. Besides, it must be kept in mind that the Norwegian and Danish people came from countries of smaller population, having an Established State Church of the Lutheran Confession; which although staid and formal in its ways, impelled respect and authority. Methodism, with its warm message and great zeal to win souls for Christ, which so markedly distinguished its early existence, appealed to the Norsemen. It was the "compelling power of a new affection, of the joyous abandonment to the claims of the Master," which was gloriously experienced. This coupled with the knowledge of Religion, which formed an important part of instruction in the public and higher schools of the old countries, produced excellent church members. Thousands of Norwegians and Danes were influenced by the Methodist meetings, even if only a minor part of these actually joined the church. Its influence extended so far that things peculiar to Methodism, as that of kneeling in prayer, testimonies and lay preaching was adopted in large measure by the Lutherans.

* * * * *

The beginning of Norwegian-Danish Methodism on the Pacific Coast dates back to the year 1878, when Rev. Carl J. Larsen and his wife arrived in Oakland, California. Mr. Larsen was a wood carver by trade and was connected as foreman in one of the largest carving and designing factories on the Coast. Both Mr. and Mrs. Larsen were converts of the flaming Methodist Preacher, J. H. Johnson, pastor of the First Norwegian-Danish Methodist Episcopal Church of Chicago, and finding a group of Scandinavian people who had come west, attracted by the climate and better working conditions, immediately opened meetings in the homes of the people, with the result that the houses became too small. A Seven Day Adventist Church was then rented for Sunday Services. Mr. Larsen, now a member of the First M. E. Church of Oakland, was duly made a Local Preacher; in charge of the Norwegian-Danish work.

The meetings grew in interest and to quote Mr. Larsen in his own words: "Souls were saved, God's work of grace deepened in our hearts. Call it sanctification if you like." A neat little church was erected on a lot located on Market and 24th Streets in 1880, costing \$1100, which became the first Scandinavian M. E. Church built on the Pacific Coast. As several Swedish people were members of the church the name used in those days was "Scandinavian," which later on became "Norwegian-Danish," as the Swedish people organized their own work. This church was dedicated by Dr. C. V. Anthony, then Presiding Elder of the Oakland District. The same year Carl J. Larsen left his former occupation and joined the California Conference on trial. In his diary from those days, Mr. Larsen states: "I also left a salary of \$130 per month and received \$50 per month for the privilege of preaching the gospel to my countrymen."

In the spring of 1881 a missionary tour was made by Rev. Larsen to Oregon and Washington. In Portland, Astoria, Tacoma, Seattle and Skagit he found a large number of Norwegian people; and came to the conclusion that the Pacific Northwest would be a place to which our people would come in large numbers. In 1882, Rev. C. J. Larsen was transferred to the Oregon Conference and stationed in Portland. The Rev. John Jacobsen from the Norwegian-Danish Conference in the middle states succeeded him as pastor in Oakland. After organizing churches in Oregon, Rev. Larsen was transferred by Bishop C. H. Fowler in 1884 to the Puget Sound Conference and became one of its charter members. He was stationed in Tacoma and Rev. C. N. Hauge, also from the middle states, succeeded him in Portland. A congregation was organized in Tacoma in 1885 and a church dedicated the same year in the month of August by Bishop J. M. Walden.

The spirit of conquering new places and ministering to his fellow countrymen was always an inner urge with Rev. C. J. Larsen and so in 1886 he makes a missionary trip to Spokane and Moscow, Idaho, where he found promising fields, which resulted in new church organizations. Later he visited Montana where congregations became a reality in Kalispel, Butte and Helena. In 1895 a church was organized in San Francisco—and so the work went from State to State, from City to City, until Norwegian-Danish Methodism was spread in five States.

Up to 1888 the work was connected with the English speaking Conferences, but in that year on authority of the General Conference the Norwegian-Danish work was organized into a Mission Conference at Moscow, Idaho, with Dr. C. J. Larsen as Superintendent. W. X. Ninde was the presiding bishop and the Mission Conference included all Norwegian-Danish work in the States of Oregon, Washington and Idaho. At that time a membership of 292 was reported with 74 probationers. There were 10 churches at a value of \$33,000; six parsonages at a value of \$9,000.

In 1892 the work in California and Utah and Montana was added to the Mission Conference. The work was continued as a Mission Conference for eight years when in 1895 it was organized into an Annual Conference by Bishop Thomas Bowman at Astoria, Oregon, with 22 members and 5 probationers. That year the reports showed 30 churches, valued at \$102,675; 7 parsonages, valued at \$11,390. There were 628 members, 86 probationers, 24 Sunday Schools. At the time of unification in 1939, the estimated value of land and buildings was \$450,000.00.

The fact must not be omitted that the preachers who came to the West Coast and Rocky Mountain District to take up the work were men of devotion

and great fortitude. They endured hardships and heartaches. They were men of faith! Through snow and freezing temperatures, in fair weather and foul, in weariness and privation, they were preaching and ministering as they went. Pioneer preachers, as: C. N. Hauge, Martin Hansen, John Jacobsen, E. J. Lundegaard, C. L. Westberg, P. A. Paulsen, O. O. Twede, Carl Eriksen, N. L. Hansen and C. Aug. Peterson will long be remembered. Many changes have come during its organized existence of more than 50 years, that have necessitated the laying down of work in once promising places, while new fields have been taken up. The work from the very beginning has called for sacrifice and consecration.

On action of the Uniting Conference in 1939 the Western Norwegian-Danish Conference was dissolved and the churches united with the American Conferences in which territory they were located. This decision was chiefly due, first, because of the influx of Norwegian-Danish immigrants had virtually ceased, and secondly because the congregations carried on in the English tongue.

Thus, briefly told, ends the saga of the Western Norwegian-Danish Methodism, and yet it does not end. Its influence goes on to the succeeding generations of the hardy Norsemen.

My Church! My Church! My dear old Church!
 My Fathers and my own. On Prophets and Apostles built,
 And Christ the Cornerstone.
 All else beside, by storm or tide, may yet be overthrown;
 But not my Church, my dear old Church,
 My Fathers and my own.

» »

DR. C. J. LARSEN

1849-1934

by

DR. WILLIAM W. YOUNGSON

of

Oregon Conference

C. J. Larsen was born in Hestness, Nordfjord, and came with his father's family, as a boy, to Chicago, where they became Methodists. Moving to Oakland, California, with his bride, he came under the ministry of the talented Dr. Guard. Called of God, he began to preach among the Scandinavian people. Thus began the ministry that led Dr. and Mrs. Larsen over California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana to a wonderful pioneer ministry in Alaska. Mrs. Larsen was an accomplished pianist and intensely interested in every department of Church work, as were their talented daughters with violin and voice—all of whom I knew.

Dr. Larsen was an Evangelist, Organizer and Builder of Churches. His human sympathy knew no bounds. His monument is in the human heart. His life was unselfish and sacrificial—an honored hero—and the "Grand Old Man" of the Conference.

It was my high privilege to raise the money and purchase from Dr. Larsen "a Seal of the State of Oregon," hand-carved by this Veteran Missionary, which

I presented to Mayor Baker and the City Council. The State Seal was made from 17 native Oregon woods. In its composition he used fir, walnut, cedar, cottonwood, alder, laurelwood, yellow pine, maple, white pine, ash, redwood, dogwood, oak, willow, spruce and yew. Dr. Larsen learned wood carving in his youth, and he did not want his hand to lose its cunning.

The life these various avenues opened to him was rich in excitement. It made a tremendous appeal to his mind which was both brilliant and aggressive.

He ranged the Pacific Northwest with unbounded enthusiasm. He took this great Oregon country on his heart—its vast possibilities—and Methodism's opportunities. He knew the preachers. His intuition was sound. His observation keen. His sympathetic heart compelling. Here his life work ended and here his body sleeps.

When John Bunyan led Christian into the Interpreter's House he showed him a very striking and attractive picture hanging on the wall. It was an excellent portrait of a grave and saintly man. This was the fashion of it. He had eyes uplifted to heaven; the best of books in his hands; the law of truth was written upon his lips; the world was behind his back. "He stood as if he pleaded with men and a crown of gold did hang over his head. Affectionate in look and tender in address, as well becomes a messenger of grace to guilty men!" That is a true picture of a Minister, guiding his people to the Celestial City, in every age, the Pioneer of yesterday and today!

"O sacred hour! O hallowed spot!

Where love divine first found me.

Wherever walls my distant lot,

My Heart will linger round thee.

And when from earth I rise to soar

Up to my home in heaven,

Down will I cast my eyes once more

To where I was first forgiven!"

"O God! let not that race of giants die;

Give us more like them, old-fashioned, brave,

True to the truth; men that have made the Church

Mighty and glad and songful in the past."

Great and good men never die—they belong to all time. The greatest fact in the Universe is personality. C. J. Larsen is a pilgrim of the Infinite for immortality is an attribute of personality. The Western Norwegian-Danish Conference of which he was "The Founder" had him living in its midst from 1881 to 1934.

UTAH MISSION

By Martin T. Larson



MARTINUS NELSON
Superintendent

The Utah missionary work forms a very interesting chapter in the history of Norwegian-Danish Methodism. Comparatively, a large number of Scandinavians, especially Danes, became proselytes of the Mormon faith and were herded to Utah, which to them was described as a veritable Paradise. These immigrants were of course by heredity Lutherans, but the Lutheran denominations in America showed no interest in rescuing these from the faith departed brethren. The Methodist Episcopal Church commenced its missionary work among "The Latter Day Saints" in 1870. A resolution was passed at the Mission Conference in 1882 to open missions among the Scandinavians of Utah. Rev. P. H. Franklin was authorized by Bishop Hurst to make the necessary arrangements.

The coming of Rev. Martinus Nelson, formerly pastor of the Maplewood Ave. Church in Chicago, to Salt Lake City in 1883, introduces the Scandinavian mission work in Utah. In spite of the great difficulties involved, Mr. Nelson could already, after a few weeks of activity, organize a class and begin the erection of a church which was completed the same fall and named the Iliff Church, honoring the superintendent. Daily Schools became the essential factor in prospering the work, beside the courage and endurance among the workers. In 1885, four pastors were active and seven teachers. The preachers were Martinus Nelson, H. Mammer, M. Anderson, and E. E. Mork. The General Conference of 1888 decided that the Scandinavian work should form a separate district in order to further the work more effectively. Rev. Martinus Nelson became the first Superintendent with the following preachers working under his supervision: Johan M. Hansen, Lars Olsen, P. H. Franklin, Chr. Heckner, E. E. Mork, P. A. Paulsen, N. L. Hansen, J. R. Swensen, P. N. Melby and O. Christensen. In 1891 the statistical table shows 14 churches and chapels to a value of \$43,250. The five parsonages had a value of \$3875. There were 405 attending the schools.

By order of the General Conference meeting in Omaha, Nebraska, in 1892, the Western Norwegian-Danish Conference was authorized to include the Norwegian-Danish work in the States of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, California and the territory of Utah. Thus the work in Utah became a part of the Western Norwegian-Danish Mission Conference. The appointments on the Utah Districts was then as follows: Superintendent: Martinus Nelson, St. Charles and Ovid: H. S. Waaler, Brigham and Ogden: N. P. Johnsen, Ephraim Circuit: N. L. Hansen, Hyrum and Logan: Joseph Olsen, Levan and Santaquin: P. N. Melby, Provo and Spanish Fork: O. Halvorsen, Richfield and Elsinore: E. E. Mork, Salt Lake City, C. J. Heckner. Other points to be supplied. Francis Hermans and E. L. Nanthrup later served successfully in Salt Lake City.

In the year 1898 the Norwegian-Danish missionary work was united with the American Mission Conference of Utah from which it originally sprang. It was the general opinion of the church leaders that this work could be more effective by having the headquarters centered in Utah. The late Bishop Wiley

used to say: "Utah is a hard ground to plow, even harder than China." Considering this fact, the influence of the Norwegian-Danish work was a real contribution to the conversion of the Mormons.

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THE INFLUENCE OF WESTERN NORWEGIAN-DANISH METHODISM

By **Melvin L. Olson**



M. L. OLSON

I have been asked to write on the subject, "The Influence of Western Norwegian-Danish Methodism." To do this adequately one would need the eyes of a seer and the "pen of a ready writer."

In the late seventies Mr. and Mrs. Carl J. Larsen of Chicago, arrived in Oakland, California. He was a wood-carver by trade and continued his craft in his new home. But he had an engrossing hobby—that of witnessing for Christ to his fellow countrymen. Little did he realize when he began cottage meetings with Mrs. Larsen at the organ, if there was one, that this humble beginning would issue in a goodly harvest. God's blessing is on the least, when done with a pure motive, and that explains the miracle. If one could portray the effect of a spiritually vibrant personality upon other persons what stirring reading it would make. Noting the important results of his efforts he dedicated himself to the inner urge of the Christian ministry. One awakened soul kindled interest in another. Hearts, "strangely warmed," worked contagion. The new converts were organized into classes and congregations. Opposition was not inactive. Staid and formal religion looked askance at this fanaticism. The people therefore "must be warned against it as such," but this only added fuel to the flame of revival fire. Churches now began to be built, not only in Oakland but in all the leading cities of California, Oregon, Washington, Montana and in the University City, Moscow, Idaho. The scope of the itinerancy broadened. Utah, the Mecca of Mormonism, did not escape the impact of this zealous militant religion. A considerable staff of ministers carried on the soul-saving work there for years. Rev. Larsen went to Alaska and there, too, his message struck home. Possibly the best known of all his converts there or anywhere was Raymond Robins, who became nationally known, using his means to further temperance and social reform.

As the work grew and expanded, it gave promise of a bright future. Men of ability from Norway, the East and especially the N. D. Conference felt the "Macedonian Call" and responded. In Vancouver, B. C., Rev. C. N. Hauge began a missionary work, especially for Norwegian seamen. Town's people, however, also took advantage of this opportunity. Many were the souls won for God here through the years by this ministry. As much as it would be justifiable to mention all who have had a share in this notable work, because of limited space I can mention only a few. These, of course, because of outstanding achievements. In church-building Rev. R. P. Petersen holds first place. To sponsor and champion a project running into \$80,000.00 requires vision and bold, persevering faith. Rev. O. O. Twede did an incomparable piece of work as editor and publisher of "Vidnesbyrdet," for nearly eighteen years. The importance of this paper for our cause can hardly be overestimated. And what shall we say of our "Apollos," Rev. C. Aug. Petersen? He was the powerful revival-preacher, especially in his younger days. Methodists and non-Methodists heard him gladly.

The young people's work has in a way been conspicuous. For many years two E. L. Institutes were carried on with full attendance. From these gatherings Christian workers have gone out and contributed their share in Kingdom activities. The asset that we have been to American Methodist churches is notable, as the church records will show.

Scanning the annual reports through the history of our W. N. D. Methodism it is gratifying to notice that the average number of pupils attending our Sunday Schools exceed that of our church membership. Journals of some of our neighboring conferences show this is not the case. In one conference Sunday School membership was 8,000 less than the church membership, in another it was 11,000 less. We well know the best investment possible for Christian influence is to instruct young life with truth as it is in Jesus Christ.

I have seen in print words from men, without vision, to the effect that our bilingual work was a mistake. No doubt, hundreds of souls would have continued in their sins but for W. N. D. Methodism. Bishop Nicholson said at our conference in Oakland, '28, "I doubt whether the people in these churches would have been won for Christ, had not the foreign language been the instrument."

The appraisal of Christian influence anywhere must of necessity be limited to visible effects. But, after all, are not these the least? The whole part will never be written; holy aspirations, lofty purposes, self-sacrifices, invisible victories and kindly ministries unheralded and unsung by men. Can these be indexed in figures or leave their imprint in cold type. No! So this little story only gives a fragmentary picture.

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OUR OFFICIAL ORGAN—VIDNESBYRDET (The Testimony)

By H. P. Nelsen



H. P. NELSEN

The Vidnesbyrdet was started in 1889 following the organization of the Norwegian - Danish work as a Mission Conference in the Fall of 1888. Pastor John Jacobsen, at that time in charge of Albina and La Center churches and Pastor John L. Ericksen, were elected editors, and Pastor C. N. Hauge of Tacoma, manager. Pastor Ericksen resigned in May, 1890, leaving Pastor Jacobsen as the sole editor. It was issued every 1st and 15th of each month and contained 32 pages. The editor, John Jacobsen, gave practically all he possessed to keep the paper going, during its early infancy, and served like the manager, without pay.

The publication grew in favor with the people and expanded. The Tract Society of the mother church aided by a donation of \$450.00, and the Vidnesbyrdet was now issued weekly, with Rev. E. M. Stangeland as editor. By 1892 it had a budget of \$4,168.00. The records of 1895 shows that a subscription was taken among the preachers amounting to \$270.00 to cover debt on the paper and returned to an editor who also served a church. Martin Han-

sen, Martinus Nelson and others served as such. C. Heckner was both printer, editor and manager, combined. It was, nevertheless, John Jacobsen's heroic sacrifice that finally saved the day.

At the Annual Conference in Emanuel Church, Seattle, 1904, Pastor O. O. Twede was elected editor and for 13 consecutive years advanced and bettered the paper. The Book Concern granted a yearly gift of \$1200.00. In 1917 F. A. Scarvie was elected editor and for three years did a very good work. H. P. Nelsen was elected to the editorship in 1920. However, the three Norwegian-Danish Methodist publications in America, the Vidnesbyrdet, Kristelige Talsmand and Ostens Missioner were consolidated in January, 1921, under the name of Evangelisk Tidende by the Methodist Book Concern.

Vidnesbyrdet was a peoples paper. It carried church news in general; missionary news from all over the world, and a column with news from "the old country." Besides, its crisp, readable religious articles were to the peoples liking. We grieved to see our paper go. It never stood better financially and had about 2500 subscribers. We had lost our best friend. Vidnesbyrdet had been the only preacher for hundreds out in the by-ways and highways—the fisherman out by the lonely seashore or isolated islands of the sea, and I dare say—the main connecting link among our far-flung western frontier churches. Yes, the loss severed our jugular vein, as one said, for no matter how hard they tried to please in what we got in place of it, it could never fill its place. It was different—a church organ rather than a people's journal.

Of other publications, outside our yearly Conference Journal and the reprint of some tracts, we had none. What books we had for sale in our Book Store, were published in the East.

After Vidnesbyrdet ceased to be, C. Heckner, our good and faithful typesetter for Vidnesbyrdet started a paper he called, "Sambaandet." That in a way filled the bill for a while. But soon Heckner passed away to his eternal reward and the paper was purchased by Pastor F. Engebretsen, who continued the publication for some time.



THE WOMEN'S WORK

By Lydia M. Olson



MRS. F. A. SCARVIE

A Memorial to the Western Norwegian-Danish Methodist Conference would not be complete without mentioning the women's work. In many places the women were the first to shoulder responsibility and the last to lay the work down.

The Ladies' Aid is the oldest organization and was at work from the very beginning of the Conference. The last year of the conference, 1939, they raised \$5913. While the raising of money to help carry on the work was very important, of greater importance was the personal touch and the Christian influence that brought others under the influence of the Gospel.

Another organization, which was at work for many years, was the "Family Circle" made up of the wives, daughters and sons of the personages. They raised money in various ways and brought it to

the Conference for the Retired Ministers' Fund to be distributed among those of the retired men and women who were in special need.

The Women's Missionary Society was organized in 1918 with Mrs. F. A. Scarvie as its first Conference Secretary. She served for eleven years, and did a splendid piece of work. The first Auxiliary was organized in the Emanuel Church in Seattle by Mrs. C. J. Heckner. Auxiliaries or Extension Circles were organized in many of the churches. During the twenty-one years of their existence they raised \$12,168 for the support of missionaries, scholarships, Bible women, educational institutions, and hospitals in the foreign field.

We pay tribute to the faithful women who have served so well during the existence of our Conference.

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YOUTH ACTIVITIES

The Epworth League in the Western Norwegian-Danish Conference can justly be called outstanding. The total membership reaches almost to that of the general church membership, not including the non-resident and inactive members. There was in 1925, 1018 League members and 1136 active church members. The same year, Reverend F. Engebretsen, then the Epworth League Secretary of the Conference, reports: "The Epworth League work in our Conference is growing in importance. The work is changing. While formerly the young people in our churches were new-comers from the old countries, we now find them to be mostly of Scandinavian extraction, second and third generations."

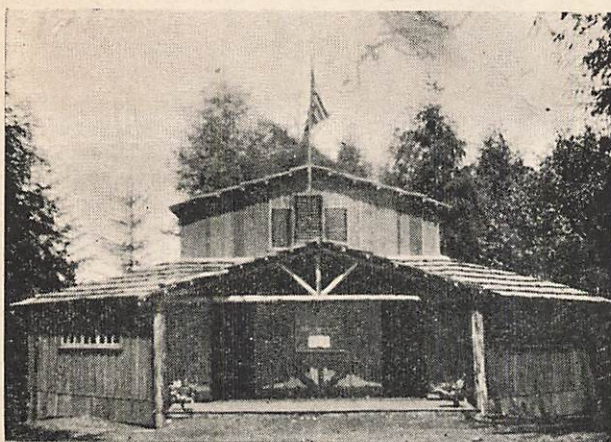
Annual Epworth League Institutes were held every summer. On the Pacific Northwest District at Beulah Park, Vashon Island, Wash., and on the California District at Mount Hermon, California. These gatherings were especially noted for their fine, spiritual quality, high interest and enthusiasm. The splendid staff

of teachers put life and spirit into their teaching. The work of the Kingdom and methods of doing this work were enlarged upon, and the people went home to their various churches with a clearer vision of needs to be met and how to meet them. The rallies and conventions were high points during the year to which the leaguers often would travel 200 miles or more.

The pastors usually conducted yearly a Confirmation Class in which instructions were given in the Catechism, Bible and Church History. After an impressive Confirmation Service, the members of the class would be received into Preparatory Membership.

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BEULAH PARK INSTITUTE AND CAMP MEETING GROUNDS



A need was often felt for a permanent Camp Meeting and Institute site for the Pacific Northwest District, which resulted in securing fourteen acres at Cove, Vashon Island, Washington. The Rev. Abraham Vereide had originally purchased this tract of land for Seattle First Norwegian Danish Methodist Church, but it was incorporated in 1918 following the first Camp Meeting as the Beulah Park Camp Meeting

Association in order to benefit all our churches. The land was surveyed, platted and the streets named after famous leaders of Methodism. Lots were acquired by pastors and laymen; the central section retained as a community property as park and assembly grounds.

Here two streams meet, one of which forms the Bridal Falls. An abundance of spring water, beautiful shade trees and a 640 foot water front on the west pass of Puget Sound, near the county dock of Cove, in the midst of a beautiful and fertile community, settled largely by Norwegians, made it an ideal setting for a Mecca of the churches, in western Washington and northern Oregon.

In 1934 an artistic and rustic Tabernacle was erected through the promotorship of Rev. M. K. Skarbo, with Silas Nelson, architect, and dedicated by the Rev. Martin T. Larson, then the District Superintendent. Beside the League Dormitory a Dining Hall was built in 1940. There are about 40 houses in the Park, some of these inhabited the year around.

It has been for these years a rally center for our people, for the annual Camp Meeting and Epworth League Institute. Old friendships have been renewed, new ones made and God's people have been inspired and strengthened in the faith and revived for Christian warfare. Many, young and old, have made peace with God and obtained eternal life through repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.



THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN 1939, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Front row (from the left): Mrs. O. B. Jansen, Mrs. K. Miller, P. A. Norleman, John Nelson, O. T. Field, H. P. Nelson, M. L. Olson, H. E. Andersen, Joseph Bowdoin, Miss Clara Anderson, Mrs. M. Solby. Middle row: J. G. Bringdale, D. C. Hassel, H. O. Jacobson, K. N. Ekaas, H. W. Hanson, F. Engebretsen, F. A. Scarvie, R. S. Werner, Mr. Nelson (Eureka), O. K. Jordet. Back row: B. Stockland, O. Karlseng, P. Rohr, O. A. Wiggen, S. Sivertsen, S. A. Carlson, A. Odegaard, G. A. Storaker.
(Not in picture. Bishop James C. Baker, Rev. M. K. Skarbo and Rev. Martin T. Larson)

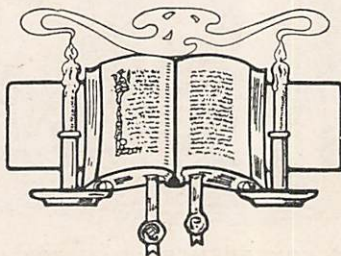


THE MISSION CONFERENCE IN 1897, PORTLAND, OREGON

Front row (from the left): O. Arvesen, C. Petersen, Grebert Andersen, H. O. Nordwick, O. Heggen, P. N. Melby. Middle row: C. N. Hauge, John Jacobsen, C. J. Larsen, Miss Hanson, Bishop C. McCabe, E. J. Lundegaard, Martinus Nelson, C. Heckner, C. Lyng Hansen. Back row: E. L. Nanthrup, N. L. Hansen, Carl Eriksen, O. O. Twede, E. E. Mork, C. Aug. Petersen, Joseph Olsen, Martin Hansen, J. J. Field.

MINISTERS WHO SERVED IN THE WESTERN NORWEGIAN-DANISH CONFERENCE

H. Ernest Andersen, Greabert Anderson, J. S. Anderson, O. R. Anderson, J. M. Amundsen, O. Arvesen, J. C. Bringdale, Joseph Bowdoin, O. Christoffersen, Andrew Christensen, Samuel Carlson, O. A. Doblough, Carl Eriksen, J. L. Ericksen, Frederick Engebretsen, Karl N. Ekaas, P. M. Ellefsen, H. Elvigen, C. F. Elzholtz, J. J. Field, O. T. Field, E. B. Gjerding, C. Lyng Hansen, Martin Hansen, N. L. Hansen, H. W. Hanson, J. O. Hall, C. J. Heckner, O. Heggen, F. Hermann, H. Helgesen, David C. Hassel, P. O. Haugland, H. S. Haver, H. O. Jacobson, John Jacobsen, O. B. Jensen, J. P. Johnson, L. C. Knudson, C. J. Larsen, Martin T. Larson, R. B. Langness, E. J. Lundegaard, Clarence H. Lund, Christian Martinsen, P. N. Melby, E. E. Mork, E. L. Nanthrup, Gottfred Nelson, H. P. Nelsen, John Nelson, Martinus Nelson, H. O. Nordwick, P. A. Norlemann, Andrew Odegard, Joseph Olsen, Lars Olsen, Melvin L. Olson, P. A. Paulsen, C. Aug. Peterson, J. J. Petersen, P. E. Petersen, Robert P. Peterson, Andrew Rogne, F. A. Scarvie, M. K. Skarbo, A. Sleipness, H. G. Smeland, Asbjorn Smestad, Phillip A. Solbjor, E. M. Stangeland, G. A. Storaker, A. H. Stromme, F. M. Trelstad, O. O. Twede, Abraham Vereide, H. S. Waaler, L. Walby, Raymond S. Werner, C. L. Westberg.





JOHN JACOBSEN
1837-1908



CARL ERIKSEN
1853-1937



F. A. SCARVIE
1859-1939



H. O. NORDWICK
1862-1942



C. AUG. PETERSON
1856-1937



C. LYNG HANSON
1865-1913



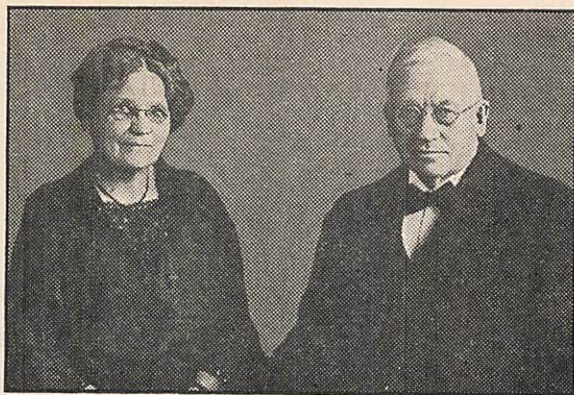
C. F. ELTZHOLTZ
1840-1929



GREABERT ANDERSEN
1860-1943



F. ENGBRETSEN
1874-1940



MRS. AND C. N. HAUGE



E. B. GJERDING



ANDREW
CHRISTENSEN



E. L. NANTHRUP



G. A. STORAKER

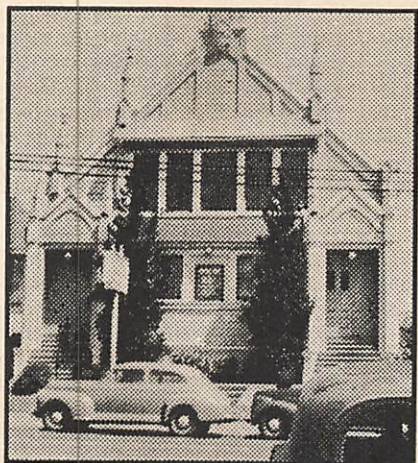


J. G. BRINGDALE



H. ERNEST ANDERSEN

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA



In the year 1879, Mr. C. J. Larsen, a member of the First Methodist Church, Oakland, a foreman for the largest carving and designing factory in the West, felt the need of gospel preaching among the Scandinavian people. Meetings were started in a home in Oakland; interest grew, and souls were saved so the home soon became too small. In 1880 a lot was purchased on Market and 24th Sts., and a small Church built, which was dedicated by Rev. Anthony, Presiding Elder in the California Conference. For three years the Church belonged to this Conference, and was served by a Swedish pastor, Rev. O. Ferrell. It was called the Scandinavian Methodist Church.

As time passed, the Norwegian and Danish members felt that the work could be carried on more effectively if

they were by themselves, with the result that on December 15, 1883, the Norwegian-Danish Methodist Episcopal Church was organized, composed of nine members: Louis Thompson, and wife, Johanna Thompson, Mert Eliassen and wife, Hanna Eliassen, Hans Lorentsen, Wm. Petersen, Sofie Reinertsen, Petrea Pedersen, and B. Christophersen. The building on 24th and Market Sts., was retained by the newly organized congregation, and John Jacobsen was the first pastor, preaching his first sermon April 20 1884.

In 1887 the Centennial Methodist Church on Campbell St. was bought as a more suitable location. Carl F. Elzholtz was the pastor at that time.

After six years in this location, the congregation again felt the need of a more centrally located Church, and the present building at 608 20th St., then owned by the Baptists, was bought. On Sunday, November 21, 1893, the first service was held at the new location, and on March 18, 1894, the building was dedicated by Bishop D. Goodsell. Rev. John Jacobsen was then the pastor for the second time.

The following Pastors have served here:

John Jacobsen, Carl F. Elzholtz, Greabert Andersen, John Jacobsen, C. Aug. Peterson, Martinus Nelson, E. J. Lundegaard, F. A. Scarvie, Elias Gjerding, Andrew Christensen, Frederick Engebretsen, R. B. Langness, David C. Hassel, R. S. Werner,, and G. A. Storaker. D. C. Hassel has served since 1941 for the second time.

This Church has always been very missionary minded and it supported several native missionaries for years. Great improvements were made in 1920-1923. In 1926 an assessment of five thousand dollars was placed on the Church for widening of 20th St. The last dollar of that was paid in 1941. This Church has been known for its wholesome Christian spirit and its fine financial and moral support of its ministry.



DAVID C. HASSEL

EUREKA, CALIFORNIA

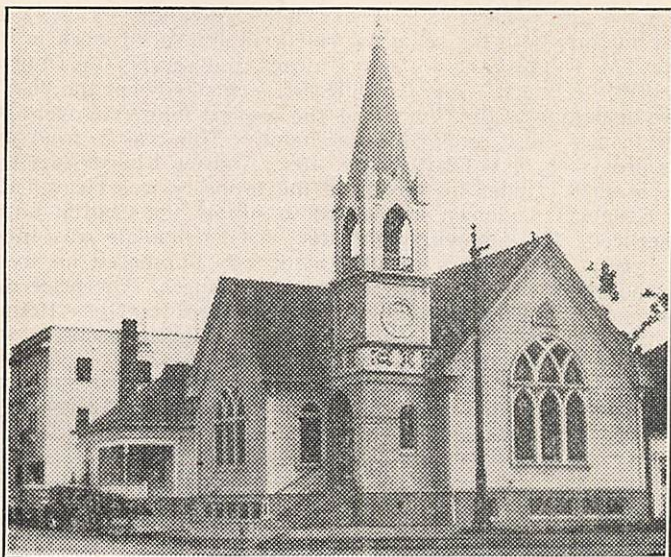


Rev. O. Christofersen was the organizer of the Eureka Church in 1889. The charter members were: Mr. and Mrs. A. Abrahamsen, Mr. and Mrs. O. Nilsen, Mr. and Mrs. T. Olsen, Mr. and Mrs. T. Nilsen, Mr. and Mrs. Olsen and Mrs. John Nelson. Pastor Christofersen served the Church for two years. Following him came Pastor Grebert Andersen, and in his time the parsonage was built. The following pastors served two years each: Carl Eriksen, Martinus Nelson, P. E. Peterson and O. T. Field. In 1903 Pastor O. R. Andersen was appointed and served three years, and following him came Pastor P. E. Peterson for the second time and served five years. These were the years of revival and the Church flourished. Pastor John Nelson came in 1911 and served four years, and Pastor A. Sleipness from 1915 to 1916. From 1916 to 1920 the Church was served by Pastor Martinus Nelson, who also was District Superintendent of the California District. The Centenary movement had its beginning at this period and the missionary enthusiasm swept the churches. Eureka sub-

scribed \$2,000 over a period of five years and paid the entire amount in three years. This, besides the running expenses, was a marvelous achievement for a membership of 23. A wonderful missionary spirit prevailed in this Church for many years. Pastor A. Rogne served from 1920 to 1922, and Pastor R. B. Langness the following two years. These were years of increased activity and much improvement was done to the property. Pastor H. S. Haver came in 1923 and served for three years. Through an untiring effort of Pastor and Mrs. Haver the Church increased in attendance and membership. The Ladies' Aid in this Church has the outstanding record of being number one in the Conference in contributions. In 1926 Pastor A. Rogne came back for the second term and served three years. In 1929 Pastor K. N. Ekaas came from the Evanston School and took charge. He served nine years, the longest pastorate in this Church. Much improvement was done to the property. During these years several of the old-time members passed away, so even if new names were added, there was very little increase in membership. Pastor R. S. Werner was appointed here in 1937. Two men went into the ministry from this Church, Pastor F. Engebretsen and Pastor A. Smedstad.



LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA



At the Western Norwegian-Danish Annual Conference in Astoria, Oregon, in 1895, the District Superintendent, Rev. C. J. Larsen, presented the need of a Norwegian-Danish Church in Los Angeles. There was very little financial help to be had for Church extension work, but the Conference voted \$200 for the following year to Los Angeles. In January, 1896, Rev. C. Clemensen, a student from Chicago who had come to the Coast for his health, was appointed pastor. The first class was organized February 7, 1896, with six members: Carl Bolness, Martin Bruflat, Bertha Knudsen, Cora Larsen, Larsine Larsen and Jens Madsen. The United Brethren Church on the corner of Pico Blvd. and Hope St. was rented and the meetings were well attended. After only two months Rev. Clemensen returned to Chicago to resume his studies. E. L. Nanthrup, who was a young local preacher, was appointed to serve out the year. At the fall Conference Rev. Carl Eriksen was appointed and served two years, with rich spiritual harvest. Pastor Eriksen saw the need of a permanent house of worship for the congregation, so plans were laid and money collected. A lot on the northwest corner of Pico Blvd. and Hope St. was rented, with option to buy it within three years. A small chapel was erected which later was moved and is now the present parsonage at 950 S. Bixel St. This chapel was dedicated, free of debt, Sunday, November 7, 1897. In 1898 Rev. C. August Petersen took up the work as pastor and served three years. In 1899 the ground on which the Church, Parsonage and Girls' Home now is located was purchased for \$1,600 at the northeast corner of Denver and Tenth Sts. In 1901 Rev. P. E. Petersen was appointed and served the congregation for five years. Then came Rev. H. G. Smeland, who served three years. The congregation had now grown to 62 active members.

In 1909 Rev. J. J. Petersen was appointed and served two years. It was in his last year of service here, 1911, that the present building now housing the Bethany Home for Women was purchased and moved onto the church lot. The rental of this building was a great financial help in meeting the added expenses. In 1911 came Rev. O. A. Doblough as pastor and served here seven years. Under

his direction a home for girls was rented a few blocks from the Church, where the many Scandinavian servant girls could have a place to rest and be under Christian home atmosphere. Miss Gyda Sollem donated her work as matron. This added much to both the financial, spiritual, and social work in the Church. In 1918 Rev. M. L. Olson came from Chicago and served the Church for five years. In 1919 the Board of the Girl's Home decided to rent the 20-room apartment house belonging to the Church, as the request for rooms were so pressing. They were to pay the Church \$140 per month. This was a great undertaking and it has proved to be a healthy one. Rev. Andrew Christensen took up the work here in 1923. Under his pastorate the property was cleared of debt. In 1927 Rev. Greabert Andersen was asked to supply the Church until a pastor could be secured. The following year, Rev. J. G. Bringdale was appointed and served six years. In January of 1930 a lot was purchased on the corner of Arapahoe and 12th Sts. as the site for the new Church. The price was \$16,500. There was paid down \$5,500; \$3,500 of this came from the Girls' Home. A mortgage for \$11,000 was taken on the entire Church property. As there was no sale for the old Church and times were difficult, nothing was done to the building project. In 1934 Rev. David C. Hassel was appointed pastor and served seven years. The heavy debt of \$11,000 made the work very difficult, so a plan was started to pay off some every month. In 1937 the parsonage was rebuilt and made into a modern six-room house. All the labor was donated and \$2,300 paid out in cash. By 1941 the debt had been reduced to \$6,625 and taken over by individuals on promissory notes, thereby eliminating all dealings with the bank. In 1940 three apartments were built on the Arapahoe lot, called the "Nor-Dan," and a separate board formed. That relieved the Church of all financial burdens from that debt.

Rev. Ernest C. Cole served the church from 1941 to 1943. The present pastor is Rev. Raymond S. Werner, who was appointed in 1943.



RAYMOND S. WERNER



SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA



NEW CHURCH

The Church in San Francisco was organized during the pastorate of Rev. C. J. Larsen, on April 17, 1895, with seventeen members. For the first few months services were held in a hall on Market Street; then a lot was purchased on Tenth Street, between Howard and Folsom streets, and a new building was erected, the property being valued at \$9,000. On August 4, 1895, the new Church was dedicated by Bishop Goodsell.

The first Ministers' District Meeting of the California District was held in San Francisco on August 6, 1895.

The second minister to come to San Francisco was Rev. Joseph Olsen. The debt on the new building seemed to be too heavy for the small congregation to carry, so it was given up, and they moved to a new location on Mission Street near Eighteenth.

In 1906, while Rev. P. N. Melby was minister, San Francisco experienced an earthquake and fire that destroyed the building in which they worshipped. A new Church on Seventeenth Street was then built. This is said to have been the first building erected after the fire. Here the congregation prospered, and finally it became necessary to secure larger quarters.

It was decided to launch out on a wider field of service by combining accommodations for sailors' work and apartments with a place to worship. For this purpose a larger corner lot was purchased and a four-story building erected at a cost of \$74,600. The two lower floors are used for Church auditorium, Sunday School rooms, social hall, pastor's study, and ladies' parlor. There are apartments for the pastor and caretaker, and eight other apartments, comfortably furnished, where strangers in the city are glad to find a good place to live.

This Church was dedicated December 8, 1923, by Bishop Adna W. Leonard during the pastorate of Rev. Robert P. Petersen.



OLD CHURCH



ROBERT P. PETERSEN

During the years that have followed, the indebtedness has gradually decreased through the income from the apartments and donations of the constituency, so that at present the debt is only \$12,900.

The Western Norwegian-Danish Conference has been entertained in San Francisco four times, the last session being in May, 1939, when our Conference was merged with the American Conferences. The pastors and laymen of the Church have represented our Conference at the General Conference on six different occasions.

Seventeen pastors and four sailors' missionaries have served the Church, as follows: C. J. Larsen, Joseph Olsen, P. N. Melby, J. J. Petersen, P. M. Ellefsen, E. J. Lundegaard, A. M. Trelstad, Martinus Nelson, F. A. Scarvie, O. O. Twede, C. N. Hauge, R. P. Petersen, J. G. Bringdale, M. L. Olson, G. A. Storaker, and P. A. Solbjør, 1940 to 1944.

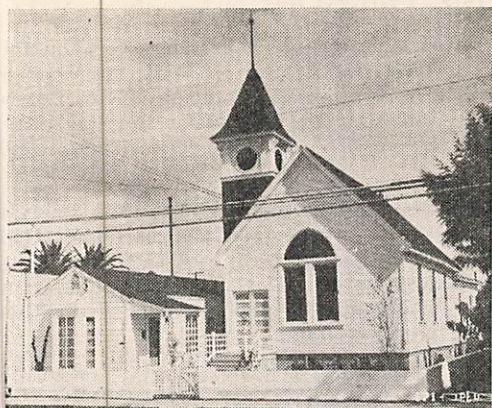
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THE TOKAY COLONY, AND BETHANY HOME FOR AGED

In the years 1908-1910 a group of Scandinavian people located on small farms in Tokay, about 15 miles from Stockton. The California District of the Western Norwegian-Danish Conference saw an opportunity here to form a colony and place an Old People's Home where the aged from our churches could come and spend their declining years in lovely California sunshine. A plot of 40 acres was bought and a home erected, and for several years a very fine work was done through this home.

In 1911 a camp meeting was held under the large oak tree next to the Home and the spiritual interest grew. An organization was formed with Bro. Frank Larsen, local preacher, in charge. In 1915, when Pastor O. Arvesen was serving here, a friend gave a lot for the location of the Church. The Ladies' Aid Society started gathering money for the building fund, and in January, 1918, the new Church was dedicated under the leadership of Rev. M. J. Johnsen. He served the Church for several years and was also manager of the Old People's Home. Rev. P. M. Ellefsen was then appointed here and served for some years. Following the war, many of the Scandinavian people moved away from the colony and Spanish-speaking people moved into the community. This made the Church work very difficult and the Church remained vacant for a number of years, and it was finally decided best to sell the Church, so that the Board of Home Missions could receive back what they had put into it. As no new people had come into the Home lately, it was decided to dispose of it and make arrangements for those left in other creditable homes. The property had in 1925 a value of \$18,237. For some years a very fine work was done here and we know it was not done in vain. A Missionary Society kept working for several years after the Church had ceased to function. The Church was sold in 1938 and all proceeds went to the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension in Philadelphia.

SAN PEDRO, CALIFORNIA



In 1898, When Pastor C. Aug. Peterson was serving the Los Angeles Church, the work was begun in San Pedro through his effort. A lot was given for the Church, and on July 16, 1899, a lovely chapel was dedicated with a debt of \$600. It was the first Scandinavian Church in San Pedro. Already, then, many Scandinavian ships entered the harbor, so the plan was also to make the Church a Seamen's Mission. In 1901 a great revival took place under P. E. Petersen's pastorate in Los Angeles. Many Scandinavians had moved in to San Pedro, so the work of the Church flourished. It

was still being served by the Los Angeles pastor and congregation. In 1915 Pastor John Nelson served for one year and Pastor O. Arvesen the following two years. The charge then reverted back to the Los Angeles Church for several years. In 1926 Theodor Pedersen, who was a local preacher, was appointed to supply the pulpit and a very fine seamen's work was done for the next six years. In 1930 Pastor F. Engebretsen was appointed and served for nine years. Together with his devoted wife they gave a sacrificial service. In 1937 a lovely little bungalow was built next to the Church, thereby relieving the pastor of paying house rent and also make the work more convenient. In 1939, the year of the unification, Pastor Engebretsen retired, and the following year passed to his eternal reward. The Royal Order of St. Olav was bestowed upon Rev. F. Engebretsen by the King of Norway in recognition of his service among Norwegian seamen. The Church became a charge in the South California-Arizona Conference. Rev. J. P. Johnson came from Philadelphia to take up the work and served for two years. In 1942 the Church was sold to the Norwegian Government as a Seamen's Mission. That closed the history of a sacrificial service by the Western Norwegian-Danish Conference in San Pedro, California.

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SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

Our work here dates back to 1889. Scandinavians in great numbers settled everywhere in the Inland Empire. Rev. C. J. Larsen, then Presiding Elder, held meetings which resulted in the organization of a congregation composed of 13 members. Soon after, a church and parsonage were built on a well located lot on South Stevens Street. Rev. E. M. Stangeland was appointed the first pastor of the church.

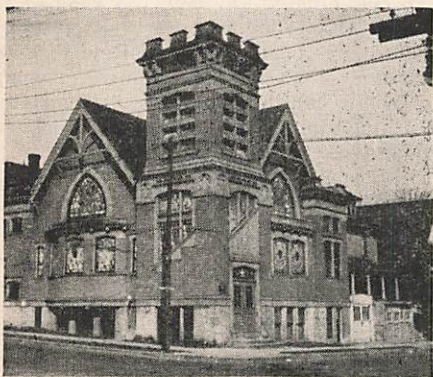
The church prospered and for years was strongly evangelistic and a force for righteousness among our people. The following ministers have served the church: C. N. Hauge, C. Lyng Hansen, L. Walby, N. L. Hansen, E. J. Lundegaard, H. P. Nelsen (twice), C. Aug. Peterson, Abraham Vereide, Andrew Christensen, Gottfred Nelson, O. T. Field, A. Odegaard (twice), Hilmer W. Hansen, Frederick Engebretsen and Hagbart Elvigen. Andrew Odegaard, the present pastor, serves faithfully and has accomplished a good work.

FIRST NORWEGIAN-DANISH M. E. CHURCH PORTLAND, OREGON

Dr. C. J. Larsen, founder of the Norwegian-Danish Methodist work on the Pacific Coast, organized this congregation October 19, 1882, with 15 charter members. They were: Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Rasmussen, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Petersen, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Lawrence, Mr. and Mrs. Ole Williamson, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Johnson, Mrs. C. J. Larsen, J. J. Lee, J. A. Olsen, Olene Arnesen and Marie Gundersen.

The congregation first rented a hall on Third Street, which after a while proved too small, and a need was felt to secure a permanent church home. God greatly blessed the little flock of believers with much faith and a lot was purchased on 13th and Davis Street for \$2,500. A church was built at a cost of \$3,000. It was dedicated May 6, 1883. The following article of the dedication appeared in the Oregonian and is here partly quoted:

"The new Scandinavian Church in this city, under the energetic pastorate of Rev. C. J. Larsen, was dedicated to the worship of God last Sabbath at 2:30 P. M., Rev. G. W. Izer preaching the sermon, which was characteristically able and appropriate. The house is a real beauty and is well situated for the population it is designed to serve. These people, led on untiringly by their pastor, have accomplished a work of heroism that, as Dr. Izer puts it in his discourse, 'we have never seen equalled.' They have done this without help from the Missionary or Church Extension Board and at the same time supported their pastor. Rev. Larsen himself, with his own deft hands, built the pulpit and altar, and did much other mechanical work."



This church has greatly influenced our work on the Pacific Coast. The present beautiful edifice and parsonage was erected in 1909 during the pastorate of Rev. H. P. Nelsen, on the corner of 18th and Hoyt Street. The old church was sold for \$25,000 cash and the money was applied on the new building project.

As several of the members moved over to the east side of the city and became members of the Vancouver Avenue Norwegian-Danish Church, and others moved elsewhere, the church naturally lost much of its former strength. However, the work is still carried on, directed by Miss Evelyn Collins.

Some of the leading men of the Conference have been pastors of First Church: C. J. Larsen (twice), C. N. Hauge, J. L. Ericksen, O. Halvorsen, C. Aug. Peterson (twice), H. O. Nordwick, Carl Eriksen, C. Lyng Hansen, H. P. Nelsen (twice), Elias B. Gjerding, O. T. Field (twice), F. A. Scarvie, Frederick Engbretsen, Hilmer W. Hanson, M. L. Olson, and H. O. Jacobson.

VANCOUVER AVENUE CHURCH, PORTLAND, OREGON

MARTIN T. LARSON

The Rev. C. J. Larsen, D.D., who has organized most of our congregations on the Pacific Coast, is also the organizer of the Vancouver Avenue Church. In 1882 our First Norwegian-Danish M. E. Church (now Hoyt Street) was erected on 13th and Davis Street. On the east side of the Willamette River, then called Albina, a congregation was organized in 1888. This work was since 1902 disbanded, but in 1907 was revived by C. J. Larsen, who then was appointed to take up the work following a second pastorate in Portland First Norwegian-Danish M. E. Church. He reorganized the church with 20 members.

The property on Russell and Flint Street was sold for \$6,000. After an indebtedness of \$1,200 was paid on the old property, two lots were purchased from Mr. Charles Nelson on North Vancouver and Skidmore Street, costing \$1,500. Through the energetic work of Rev. Larsen an edifice, which even today is impressive and architecturally appropriate, was erected in 1909. In 1912 a parsonage was built. The property was in 1915 valued at from \$18,000 to \$20,000. The parsonage was later sold to make the church free from debt, but a lot for a parsonage was secured and paid for adjoining the church on Skidmore Street.

In the Conference Journal of the Forty-First Annual Session of the Western Norwegian-Danish Conference the following is stated: "The Vancouver Avenue Church became the last word in up-to-date church buildings in our Conference, and stands today a monument to the architectural skill of our Conference pioneer and founder, Dr. C. J. Larsen." The beauty of the interior of the church is noticeable. The wood carvings are done by Rev. Larsen himself, and the large altar painting of "Christ in Gethsemane" was sponsored by the Haabet Ladies' Aid in 1926. The pipe organ, of fine quality, was installed in 1941 in memory of Peder Pedersen. A fund was recently begun for the purpose of erecting a parsonage in the near future.

The church has several active organizations which have helped in the upbuilding of the cause. Rev. E. B. Gjerding, making Vancouver Avenue Church

his church home, has, besides being one of the pastors served temporarily and in many various ways been of help and inspiration. The local preacher, Stephen Allen, has at his own expense carried on a blessed tract mission over a period of years. The church ranks high among the Methodist churches of the city.

Pastors who have served: C. J. Larsen, 1907-1913; Abraham Vereide, 1913-1916; H. P. Nelsen, 1916; E. B. Gjerding, 1917-1918; C. J. Rynning, 1918-1919; Andrew Christensen, 1919-1920; Gustav A. Storaker, 1920-1926; Robert R. Peterson, 1926-1929; H. S. Haver, 1929-1932; Melvin L. Olson, 1932-1938; Martin T. Larson, since 1938.

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ALBINA CHURCH, PORTLAND, OREGON

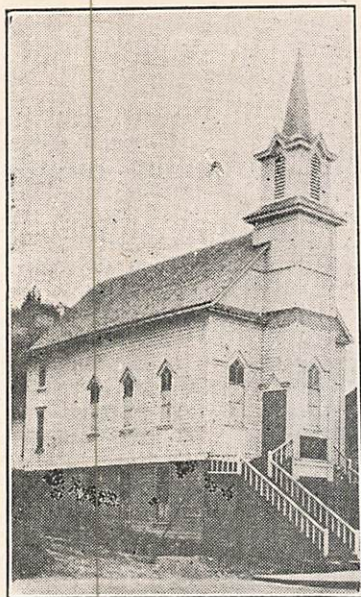
In 1888 a mission was started in Albina by Rev. C. J. Larsen, on the east side of the Willamette River, opposite the city of Portland, which is now a large part of the same city. A congregation was organized with 12 members and a lot bought on the corner of North Russell and Flint Street for \$400. A chapel was erected with a seating capacity of 150, at a cost of \$1,250. Rev. Harold Oberg was the first pastor and the chapel was dedicated the first Sunday of August, 1888, with the following pastors present: C. J. Larsen, Harold Oberg, C. N. Hauge from Tacoma and John Jacobsen from Astoria. The editor of the Pacific Christian Advocate, Dr. H. K. Hines, dedicated the church, assisted by the pastors present. The following report of the dedication appeared in the Pacific Christian Advocate and is quoted in part:

"The Scandinavian Methodists of Portland and vicinity have certainly been very successful since opening their work here a few years ago. They have a very fine church property in Portland, and last Sunday dedicated another in Albina. The new church occupies a very eligible site on Russell Street, on the brow of the hill overlooking the town and river, and very near where must be the center of population of this rapidly growing place. The building is not large, though comfortably seating not less than 150 persons. It is neatly finished inside and out and a pride to the congregation and community."

In the year 1889 Rev. John Jacobsen was appointed, which also included La Center, Wash. A Sunday School was organized and a parsonage built. Rev. C. N. Hauge served one year, 1892 to 1893. Rev. Martinus Nelson, formerly a missionary in Utah, succeeded Rev. Hauge in connection with the editorship of the Vidnesbyrdet. Albina Church was in 1896 united with Portland First Norwegian-Danish Church, with Rev. H. O. Nordwick as pastor. This union lasted only one year, as Rev. C. J. Heckner in 1897 was appointed pastor and editor of the Vidnesbyrdet.

Again, in 1898, were the two churches united, and Rev. Carl Eriksen was appointed pastor. This arrangement was in force until 1902, when the Albina work was discontinued and the church rented. However, the east side rapidly increased in population and, as many Norwegian people moved over to this district, the church was revived. The founder of the Conference, Dr. C. J. Larsen, took up the work in 1907, after a pastorate in Portland First Norwegian-Danish M. E. Church. From this church developed the Vancouver Avenue Church as a successor to the Albina Chapel.

ASTORIA, OREGON



In 1887, Rev. John Jacobsen was transferred from the Oakland, Calif., Church to Astoria, Oregon, to continue the preliminary work started by Rev. H. S. Waaler. As there was neither any congregation or church building at that time, Rev. Jacobsen rented a house in Uppertown, the residence section of the Scandinavian population. He preached the first sermon October 12, 1887, and went ahead with plans for building of a church, with the laying of the cornerstone October 25, 1887. Dr. Harrington of the Portland District officiated at this occasion. The following year the church edifice was dedicated on the 14th day of July and the congregation organized with the following members: Ernest Jensen, Henry A. Larsen-Spande, Mary D. Jacobsen, Charles Amundsen and Christian E. Larsen.

The history of this church would not be complete without honoring the memory of Rev. Lars Olsen, a most faithful and conscientious member for over forty years. Serving churches in Utah and Idaho in his younger days, he retired from the active ministry due to the illness of his wife and made Astoria his

home. Here he served in a very acceptable manner as local preacher until his death in 1943.

Through the years this church was a spiritual influence among the Norwegian people whom it served. In God's great tomorrow the results will be made known and the reward given to those who were faithful until the end. The Norwegian-Danish Mission Conference was in this church organized into an Annual Conference in 1895. Bishop Thomas Bowman was the presiding officer. The Annual Conference has been held in this church three times.

Ministers who have served Astoria: John Jacobsen (twice), Carl Eriksen, Lewis Walby, H. O. Nordwick, Joseph Olsen, F. A. Scarvie, C. J. Larsen, C. Aug. Peterson, E. B. Gjerding, O. T. Field, John Nelson (twice), J. G. Bringdale, N. L. Hansen, R. B. Langness, H. P. Nelsen, A. Sleipness, H. Helgesen, Greabert Anderson and H. O. Jacobson.

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PORT TOWNSEND, WASHINGTON

Rev. J. S. Anderson came to Port Townsend, then a thriving city on Puget Sound, and commenced meetings in 1889. By energetic work a neat church was built and was dedicated August 11, the same year. But Seattle was destined to become the great city on the Sound, and as the population continually decreased we shared the lot with many other churches which could no longer successfully operate in Port Townsend.

ABERDEEN, WASHINGTON



The first minister to open up work in Grays Harbor was Rev. H. S. Waaler. A goodly number of Scandinavian people, especially Norwegians, had settled in the twin cities, Hoquiam and Aberdeen, and in the town of Montesano. A lot was secured on the corner of North "L" Street and Market, on which a church with a room for church activities was erected in 1892. In spite of the economic depression prevailing at that time, a parsonage was built the following year. Through the years, a blessed work, with several spiritual revivals, has been the result of the Aber-

deen Church. Its influence extends far above what can be counted in numbers.

During the pastorate of Rev. A. Rogne, the church was extensively modernized. The improvement included two apartments for rental purposes. The property, with its central location, became exceptionally valuable. Although the church was never strong in actual membership, it nevertheless possessed a group of fine, God-fearing people.

The following pastors served this church: H. S. Waaler, O. Heggen, J. J. Field, T. Larsen, Frank Larsen, O. T. Field, H. Ernest Andersen, Hagbart Elvigen, Andrew Christensen, Christian Martinsen (twice), Andrew Rogne, A. Stromme, E. Fredriksen, Grebert Andersen, C. H. Lund, Joseph Bowdoin and J. Avery. The Conference was held here in 1925, with Bishop W. O. Shepard presiding.

On the Steward and Trustee boards served faithfully, among others, Mr. and Mrs. Nels Johnsen, Mr. and Mrs. Sagen, Miss Petra Paulsen and Miss Bergliot Carlsen.

COVE, WASHINGTON



H. O. JACOBSON

The Norwegian-Danish Methodist work on Vashon Island was started by Rev. C. Aug. Petersen in 1905, while he was pastor of First Church, Seattle, Wash. The first appointed pastor was Rev. Carl Eriksen, who came in 1905 and built the church building, which was dedicated September 15, 1907. It was dedicated, free of debt, by Rev. C. Lyng Hansen, District Superintendent. The Ladies' Aid Society was organized in 1906 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Wang and they have done a fine work ever since. The church was organized with seven members and at the present time has a membership of forty-nine.

The following pastors have served the church: Carl Eriksen, C. Aug. Petersen, J. S. Bringdale, John Nelsen, O. O. Twede, F. A. Scarvie, H. P. Nelsen (twice), C. Aug. Petersen, A. H. Stromme, Martin T. Larson, H. P. Nelsen, H. E. Andersen (twice), Oscar B. Jensen, and H. O. Jacobson.

The Cove Church is a thriving church with a growing Sunday School, a splendid Women's Society of Christian service. Sunday congregations are quite good, the young people having charge of the evening service, with a short sermon by the pastor.

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SOUTH BEND, WASHINGTON

South Bend Circuit is already mentioned in the appointments of 1890. That year the town was only six months old and the pastor, Rev. Carl Eriksen, writes in an article in the "Vidnesbyrde": "Northern Pacific Railway has donated our Norwegian Methodist Church three lots, to a value of \$1,300, so there is plenty of room on which to build both church and parsonage, which we intend to start building in the near future."

Rev. and Mrs. Frank Larsen, who formerly labored in Chicago, Tokay, and San Pedro, Calif., were in charge of this work for 16 years and built the present church. For some time this charge was connected with Aberdeen.

The church is located next to the Sons of Norway Hall.

TACOMA, WASHINGTON



When Rev. J. C. Larsen took up the work in Portland in 1882, he also visited Tacoma, off and on. A class was organized in April, 1884, with three trustees, P. M. Dabroe, Theodor Hammersmark and Nils Petersen. These three, with the wives of the two first named, Olivia and Danilla, were the first members. Mr. Hammersmark was a few years later married to Rev. Lundegaard's sister, Ellen. Mr. Dabroe and wife were the first probationers and the first couple married here.

During the ministry of the Rev. C. J. Larsen, which he began in September, 1884, a revival broke out which increased the membership considerably. A fine church was built on Tacoma Avenue, then the main street in the new town. The Foss family soon came, then the Kildahls and the Mathisens. Mr. and Mrs. Saeter joined in 1891. Rev. C. Lyng Hansen said of them: "The Saeters are pure gold." This lovely family has for upwards of fifty years been the mainstay of the church. Only Mrs. Nettie Saeter survives at present and follows the work with her prayers, though she no longer can attend the services. To the early group of members also belong Mr. and Mrs. Nels Andersen.

The prosperity ended in such a depression that the church as well as two lots bought at 12th and "I" Street were lost. In spite of this discouraging experience, the pastor in charge, Rev. Greabert Anderson, resolutely got hold of another lot and built a good church on the corner of 16th and "J" Street.

From this church men like C. Lyng Hanson, Lewis Walby and O. O. Twede entered into our work as pastors. Rev. E. B. Gjerding served the church a five-year term and did a splendid work. Among the active members, Mr. S. Grimstead has been a faithful officer in the church.

The following pastors have served: C. J. Larsen, C. N. Hauge, E. J. Lundegaard, Greabert Anderson, E.B. Gjerding, H. P. Nelsen, Joseph Olsen, N. L. Hansen, P. O. Haugland, G. A. Storaker, R. B. Langness, R. P. Peterson, J. G. Bringdale, M. L. Olson, K. N. Ekaas. The present pastor is the Rev. J. T. McQueen, retired member of the Pacific Northwest Conference.

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ROCKFORD, WASHINGTON

Not far from Spokane, several Norwegian families settled in a place called Rockford. J. C. Paulsen was appointed to this charge in 1889 and reported to the second annual meeting of the Western Norwegian-Danish Mission Conference that a church was built. This was accomplished in June, 1890.

EMANUEL CHURCH, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



Rev. C. N. Hauge took the first steps toward the organization of the Emanuel Scandinavian Methodist Episcopal Church in the Ballard District by the organization of a Ladies' Aid Society in 1901. During the same year a lot was purchased. Rev. C. Aug. Peterson organized a congregation consisting of sixteen members in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Chris Johnson. According to the minutes of the Annual Conference for 1902 we read that this organization took place November 1, 1901.

According to the minutes of the Annual Conference for 1902 we read that this organization took place November 1, 1901.

On the same evening in which the church was organized, it was decided to build a church building. A building committee was chosen and a goodly sum of money was subscribed. The church was dedicated in May, 1902. This church was located on 15th Avenue N. W. and West 56th Street. It was valued, when built, at \$2,000, with a small indebtedness. Pastor C. Aug. Peterson did this great work in addition to serving the First Norwegian-Danish M. E. Church in Seattle. Rev. E. L. Nanthrup was appointed pastor in Ballard in 1902 and served the church with much success until 1909, with the exception of a few months, when it was supplied by Rev. C. Lyng Hanson and Rev. Elias B. Gjerding. In 1904 a new parsonage was built on a fine corner, the exact location being on West 61st Street and 17th Avenue N. W. The plan was to build a church on the same lot, but this plan did not materialize.

Rev. P. N. Melby was appointed to Ballard in 1909 and served four years. Rev. C. J. Larsen, D.D., was appointed in 1913 and served for one year. Rev. F. A. Scarvie was appointed in 1914 and served for one year. Rev. Joseph Olsen was appointed in 1915, but for some reason did not serve. Rev. L. C. Knudsen, of the Norwegian-Danish Conference in the Middle West, then served the church very acceptably for the space of two years. In the year 1917 Rev. Fritz Trelstad was called as pastor and served for five years. It was during his pastorate that the new church was erected on the corner of West 67th Street and 24th Avenue N. W. at a valuation of about \$16,000. The church was dedicated to the greater glory of God on June 27, 1921, by Bishop William Shepard. During the pastorate of Rev. David C. Hassel a modern and spacious parsonage was built next to the church. Since the dedication of the new church the following pastors have served: C. Aug. Peterson, F. A. Scarvie, David C. Hassel, Robert R. Peterson, H. O. Jacobson, Carl N. Ekaas, J. P. Johnson. The present pastor is Jens S. Yndestad.

BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON



On December 28, 1903, Fairhaven and New Whatcom were formally united under the name of Bellingham. Our church operated in both of these towns. The first Quarterly Conference was held for the Fairhaven Church in A. Bergesen's home, May 15, 1890. The same was opened by Rev. C. J. Larsen, Superintendent. W. O. Varnson was elected Secretary. The following were present: J. S. Andersen, pastor; A. Bergesen, J. Josephsen, W. O. Varnson, N. Nilsen and A. Skibenness. In New Whatcom, Rev. O. Heggen, pastor, built a church with the assistance of his 10-year-old son, using some of the material they had from the old chapel. Through donations from friends, the church stood completed in 1899. It was dedicated by Bishop John H. Vincent on September 13 of that year.

The church in Fairhaven was sold in 1923 and the work united into one congregation. The present church building was erected in 1918, during the pastorate of Rev. John Johnson, on a fine corner lot centrally located. Rev. P. O. Haugland built the parsonage adjoining the church on Gladstone Street. Mrs. O. T. Field leads the faithful group of members and there is a notable advance.

The following pastors have served: J. S. Andersen, C. L. Westberg, J. M. Waage, C. M. Hauge, O. Heggen, John Jacobsen, O. T. Field, John Nelson, P. M. Melby, J. J. Field, J. H. Clausen, F. Engebretsen, John Johnson, John Nilsen, A. Rogne, P. O. Haugland, O. T. Field, M. K. Skarbo, Clarence H. Lund, H. W. Hanson, O. T. Field and Mrs. O. T. Field.

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WOOLMER, TROY AND BEAR CREEK, IDAHO

These communities were served by the Blaine preachers and formed a part of the circuit. The churches were built by Rev. Carl Eriksen and kept going until most of our people had moved to other places. The properties were disposed of about 1902.

FIRST NORWEGIAN-DANISH M. E. CHURCH SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



M. K. SKARBO

Dr. C. J. Larsen is the frontiersman of Norwegian Methodism on the Pacific Coast. On a visit to Seattle in 1888 he found a number of Norwegians who were members of the Swedish M. E. Church.

In 1889 Rev. Larsen returned to Seattle and organized a Norwegian-Danish Methodist Episcopal Church, with Andrew Stixrud, Ole Brecken, John Peterson, Knut Anderson and Mrs. Alma Norguard as charter members. At the beginning, meetings were held in a tent on a lot already purchased. The church and parsonage were erected and later a three-story building for rental purposes was also built.

Many Scandinavians moved to Seattle from the East and elsewhere and the church prospered. Some indebtedness on the church was incurred by this large building project. This, in connection with the hard times of 1893 to 1898, caused the property to be sold to the Swedish Baptist Church. (This property was located on what later became the Times Square, which building for years housed one of the largest newspapers of Seattle.)

Subsequently Rev. C. N. Hauge, the Presiding Elder, living in Tacoma, moved to Seattle to take charge of the work. A lot on Terry Avenue, near Howell Street, was secured and a church built. It remained the home of the congregation until 1905, when it was thought that a corner location would be more appropriate. The property was disposed of and the new location secured on Stewart Street and Boren Avenue.

In the summer of 1906 the present building was erected under the pastorate of J. J. Petersen. The church is centrally located and it ministers unto a high

percentage of newcomers and visitors, and has a large constituency of Norwegian and Danish people. In 1939 the congregation celebrated its 50th anniversary and the name of the church was changed to the Central Methodist Church. There is no mortgage on the property. Many improvements have been made during the last few years, notably the remodeling of the auditorium and the installation of a Hammond electric organ. The various departments of the church are well organized and serve with a splendid spirit of cooperation.

The following pastors have served the congregation: Dr. C. J. Larsen, Lewis Walby, Martin Hansen, E. J. Lundegaard, Grebert Andersen, C. N. Hauge, C. Aug. Peterson, F. A. Scarvie, J. J. Petersen, Joseph Olsen, C. Lyng Hansen, C. Aug. Petersen, Abraham Vereide, Dr. J. O. Hall, H. S. Haver, H. E. Andersen and H. P. Nelsen. Martin K. Skarbo has served since 1936.

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EVERETT, WASHINGTON

The church at Everett began with a small group of faithful followers in the year 1892. Rev. P. M. Ellefsen was the pastor. At that time Stanwood was also connected with Everett as a circuit charge. As more people began coming out to this part of the country, attracted by the beautiful Nature, so like Norway, more of our people came to this place of worship and the number increased. A church building was erected in 1893 on the corner of Rockefeller and Everett Avenue, and was dedicated the same year by Bishop D. A. Goodsell. Later a parsonage was built adjoining the church on Everett Avenue. Rev. P. M. Ellefsen served from the organization of the church until 1895. During the pastorate of Carl Eriksen extensive improvements were made that improved greatly the usefulness of the church.

The influence of this church in a city strongly populated with Scandinavian people cannot be underestimated. For years the Social Hall, in which the Epworth League doings were held, attracted a full house of young and old who enjoyed the programs and fellowship with friends and fellow countrymen. Special meetings always gathered fine congregations and often gratifying results. The Ladies' Aid and Missionary Society did praiseworthy work. The Lutheran Free Church group as well as the Mission Friends worshipped with the Norwegian Methodists before they effected their own organizations.

In September, 1942, the 50th anniversary of the church was celebrated with a Golden Jubilee and with a large attendance of former pastors and members. The church was redecorated and painted and looks quite attractive on one of the most prominent corners of the city, where it still ministers to the Norwegian people.

The pastors who have served are as follows: P. M. Ellefsen, O. Heggen, O. O. Twede, Carl Larsen, Carl Eriksen, F. A. Scarvie, J. J. Field, E. L. Nanthrup, Gottfred Nelson, Andrew Christensen (twice), O. T. Field, H. E. Andersen, H. P. Nelsen, H. Elvigen, Martin T. Larson (twice), A. H. Stromme and Alfred Amundsen. P. A. Norleman is the present pastor.

LA CENTER, WASHINGTON

Rev. C. N. Hauge founded the congregation and built the church in the rural community called Highland, about five miles east from La Center, in 1891. Being at that time pastor of the First Norwegian-Danish M. E. Church of Portland, Mr. Hauge heard of many Norwegian people settling in this district and, true to his missionary zeal, came to preach to them. This resulted in a spiritual awakening which brought a number of the people into the union with the church. A Sunday School was established, led by a saintly layman, E. J. Ericksen, and likewise a Ladies' Aid was organized. In the grove near the church, camp meetings were often held in the summertime which were a great spiritual uplift to the people of the community and adjoining country.

This church has been served by the pastors of First Norwegian-Danish Church and the Albina Church of Portland. At a short interval the pastors of the La Center American M. E. Church took care of this church. They were Rev. Gilbert and Rev. Cline.

Among the pioneers who faithfully supported this work, only Mrs. Carrie Thorsen and Mrs. E. J. Ericksen are left.

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FRAGARIA—OLALLA, WASHINGTON

The Fragaria Church was dedicated June 12, 1921, under F. A. Scarvie's pastorate, by the District Superintendent, Dr. C. J. Larsen, with a number of preachers present. But that was not the beginning of the work in Fragaria.

Some of the good people in this community would go across Westpass occasionally to attend services in Cove, on Vashon Island, and thus became acquainted with our Methodist Church and met some of our ministers, who at their invitation would come over to Fragaria and preach. The first Sunday School was held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Mehus, and later the schoolhouse was used for the meetings. Fragaria became a regular appointment of the Conference, with Rev. F. A. Scarvie as the first pastor.

The membership has changed much, but not increased to speak of, due to a constant change in population; but there is today a larger Sunday School than at any time in the history of the church, which brings with it a promise of a bright future.

In Olalla, a community near Fragaria, a good work was carried on for a number of years by the pastors serving the Fragaria charge. A notable revival among the people, resulting from special meetings conducted by the Rev. J. Amundson, gave start to a congregation which met regularly in the Lutheran Church and became of influence for good in this district.

The following pastors have served: F. A. Scarvie, H. P. Nelsen, C. Aug. Peterson, M. T. Larson, A. Odegaard and the present pastor, H. E. Andersen, who has served altogether 15 years.

BLAINE, IDAHO



The Rev. C. J. Larsen visited the Columbia Conference in the spring of 1886 and a promise was then made him of mission support for work taken up among the Scandinavian people of Moscow and vicinity if a man could be found to go ahead with the work. So Rev. Larsen corresponded with Rev. Carl Eriksen of La Crosse, Wisconsin, who had served as a local preacher for five years. The result was that Rev. Eriksen left La Crosse on April 11, 1886, for Tacoma, Wash., to consult with Rev. C. J. Larsen. Not until June was Carl Eriksen sure as to whether or not he would try this mission field, but finally decided to come to Moscow and see what could be done.

Meanwhile Rev. C. J. Larsen had made a tour of the county, coming to Moscow June 11, 1886, where he stayed a few days. Then he went to Spokane Falls (now Spokane) and returned to Tacoma the same week. The next week Rev. Larsen went to Portland to confer with Rev. Eriksen, who left Portland June 24, 1886, for Idaho. In Moscow he found a few Norwegians and Swedes, but none were church-minded. After Conference, which that summer met at Lewistown, Rev. Eriksen started to hold meetings at Moscow, morning and evening, with a service in Blaine every Sunday afternoon. These meetings were quite well attended.

On October 14, 1886, the first Quarterly Conference was held and a decision was reached to try to build a church. While Rev. Eriksen does not take any credit in his narrative regarding the buildings, it is safe to say that no church would have been erected, either in Moscow or Blaine, had it not been for Carl Eriksen's untiring efforts in canvassing the community to raise funds and get donations of lumber and building materials. The church became a reality, so it was partially ready eight days before Christmas. Brother Eriksen was a real genius in raising funds and finished everything he set out to do. Over \$1,200 was raised for the building of Blaine Church, which was a huge sum to raise in those pioneer days when dollars were few and hard to get.

Sunday, June 27, 1887, the church was dedicated by Rev. J. G. Strong, Presiding Elder for Lewiston District. The Revs. C. J. Larsen, C. N. Hauge and the pastor, Carl Eriksen, were present. The pulpit in the church was made by Carl Eriksen. The well-built church possesses also a fine sounding bell. The parsonage is located near the church. The following pastors have served the church: Carl Eriksen, C. L. Westberg, J. S. Andersen, Joseph Olson, P. N. Melby, J. J. Field, O. T. Field, J. Clausen, Melvin L. Olson, N. L. Hansen, A. Sleipness, A. Smedstad, H. Helgesen, Erling Bergan and J. S. Andersen (served twice).

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GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

Rev. N. L. Hansen organized the congregation in Great Falls, Montana. A church and parsonage were built by him on two well selected lots on the corner of 14th Street and 2nd Avenue N. In 1919 the property was rebuilt in such a degree that it looked like a new church, Missionary work was carried on in Stocket, Coulee, Sun River and Farmington. This church rated many years as one of our best in the Rocky Mountain District.

KALISPELL, MONTANA



The Westside Methodist Church was organized April 17, 1895, by a group of pioneer Norwegians who earnestly desired to worship in their native language. It was organized as the Norwegian-Danish M. E. Church and became an integral part of the Western Norwegian-Danish Conference. Rev. C. N. Hauge, then District Superintendent, was present to assist and the charter members were: Robert Nordtome, Lars Johnson, Arendt Nordtome and Miss Lina Knudsen (now Mrs. Lina Johnson).

In those early days of our little town the building of a church presented real problems. Materials were hard to procure, workers were few and money was scarce. However, more members were added and soon there began the task of finding a location, raising some money and drawing plans.

A lot at the corner of Second Street and Fifth Avenue West was given to the trustees by the Kalispell Townsite Company. Members of the first board of trustees were: Robert Nordtome, Ole Grinde and Lars Johnson, and, being carpenters, helped the situation to a marked degree, since most of the work on the church was done by them and they donated much of their time and labor.

In July, 1905, the church was completed and was formally dedicated August 27th of that year with impressive ceremonies by Bishop Moore, assisted by Rev.

L. N. Hansen, then District Superintendent; Rev. George M. Fisher, Presbyterian minister of Kalispell, the pastor of Epworth M. E. Church, and Rev. John Nelson of the local church.

The first Sunday School was organized in 1895 and the Ladies' Aid the same year. A faithful worker is the present president of the society, Mrs. Andy Nordtome.

This church has always been evangelistic in nature, with the missionary spirit and fundamental principles and teachings of Christ held high by the loyal pastors who have served here. The names of the pastors appear in the order of their service:

J. J. Field, N. L. Hansen (twice), Chris Peterson, Olaus Arveson, John Nelson, C. August Peterson, Jacob Thornell, Albert Sleipnes, Rev. R. B. Langness, Andrew Odegard, H. Ernst Andersen, Hagbarth Elvigen, Grebert Anderson, Martin T. Larson, H. W. Hanson, Sam A. Carlson and Miss Beulah Rayson.

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BUTTE, MONTANA

"The Scandinavian M. E. Church, corner of Copper and Alaska Streets, will be dedicated Sunday, December 11, 1895. English services at 11 A. M. Sermon by Rev. C. J. Larsen of Portland, Oregon. Preaching at 3 P. M. by Rev. D. G. Holmes and an address by Governor J. E. Rickards. Scandinavian services in the evening at 8 o'clock, conducted by Rev. C. J. Larsen, J. Olsen and Carl Eriksen.

"The church building to be dedicated tomorrow is a credit to the city, an adornment to the section in which it is located, and a matter of pride to those who inaugurated and successfully accomplished the enterprise. The Scandinavian church society is not numerically strong, but it is composed of earnest, zealous workers, as the new edifice bears ample testimony. The building project was in the hands of a board of trustees composed of the pastor, Rev. Carl Eriksen, August Weeker, E. Erickson and E. Ness. The collections were in the main secured from the Scandinavian residents of this city.

The building is brick veneer, 30x50 feet, and from the ground to the top of the spire is 73 feet. The church proper or auditorium is in the second story. It is well proportioned and well lighted, the cone roof being finished in polished North Carolina pine, which gives a fine effect. The pews are of the same material. At the north end is the pulpit platform and adjoining it the organ loft. At the south end is a gallery which, with the pews in the body of the church, makes the seating capacity of 265. The basement is in the form of a large hall, with four smaller rooms where socials, meetings and entertainments can be held. The building was begun April 30, and with its equipment, including a modern furnace in the cellar, rates as one of the finest church buildings in this city."—(From the Butte Miner.)

Besides Rev. Carl Eriksen, this church has been served, among others, by N. L. Hansen, C. N. Hauge, H. Elvigen and A. Odegard.

HELENA, MONTANA

Rev. C. N. Hauge founded our work in Helena. An attractive church building located near the State Capitol which formerly had belonged to the German Methodists was purchased. Up through the years this church ministered to the religious need of our Scandinavian people. From here missionary work was done in Bonners and other smaller communities.

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MOSCOW, IDAHO

In the year 1885, Rev. C. J. Larsen visited Moscow, Idaho, where he found many Scandinavian people who had settled here and needed spiritual guidance. By correspondence with Rev. Carl Eriksen, then living in La Crosse, Wis., the arrangement was made that Mr. Eriksen should take up the task of organizing a congregation and build a church in this place. He arrived in 1886 and that year accomplished the work in a remarkable way. Being a man of energy and strong will, nothing seemed too hard for him.

The Norwegian-Danish Methodist Episcopal Mission Conference was organized here by Bishop W. X. Ninde in 1888. The annual session of the Mission Conference of 1893 was also held here, with Bishop D. A. Goodsell presiding.

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VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA

A Mrs. Smith, sister to the Rev. H. P. Berg of the Mid-West Conference, came to Vancouver from Australia. Seeing the need of a church for the Scandinavians that were arriving in Vancouver, she wrote to the Rev. C. N. Hauge of the Western Norwegian-Danish Conference, about 1903. At that time the Methodist Conference of British Columbia invited him to establish the Scandinavian Mission work there. This he did, remaining in Vancouver four years. During these years a lot was purchased and a mission building erected. Much good was done, many were converted and remained as faithful members. In 1907 the Rev. Ole Heggen became the pastor and served the church faithfully for four years. The Rev. E. L. Nanthrup followed for eight years. Then the Rev. J. M. Amundsen and the Rev. J. J. Petersen. It was during the latter's pastorate that the unification was made combining the Methodist, Congregational and Presbyterian churches, becoming the United Church of Canada.

A short synopsis, as this necessarily must be, leaves much unwritten of the splendid work, the many conversions, as well as the far-reaching good that the Methodist Mission accomplished in Vancouver, B. C.

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MINISTERS' AID SOCIETY

The Ministers' Aid Society was organized in view of establishing a permanent fund to aid the retired preachers. From this source came annually a contribution to the Board of Stewards for the Conference Claimants. By investments and donations the total amount reached in 1939, the year of merger, was \$10,997.48. As Financial Agents and Treasurers have acted: O. A. Doblough, C. Aug. Peterson and H. P. Nelsen.

SESSIONS OF THE CONFERENCE

The work was organized as a Mission Conference in 1888 in Moscow, Idaho, and as an Annual Conference in Astoria, Oregon, in 1895.

Year	Place	Bishop	Secretary
1888	Moscow, Idaho	W. X. Ninde	J. L. Ericksen
1889	Portland, Ore.	Thos. Bowman	"
1890	Tacoma, Wash.	J. P. Newman	"
1891	Seattle, Wash.	J. N. Fitzgerald	"
1892	Portland, Ore.	J. M. Walden	E. M. Stangeland
1893	Moscow, Idaho	D. A. Goodsell	"
1894	Oakland, Calif.	J. N. Fitzgerald	F. Hermans
1895	Astoria, Ore.	Thos. Bowman	"
1896	Tacoma, Wash.	Earl Cranston	Joseph Olsen
1897	Portland, Ore.	C. C. McCabe	"
1898	Tacoma, Wash.	"	"
1899	Spokane, Wash.	John H. Vincent	"
1900	Portland, Ore.	E. G. Andrews	"
1901	Seattle, Wash.	W. F. Mallalieu	"
1902	Astoria, Ore.	Earl Cranston	"
1903	Tacoma, Wash.	J. W. Hamilton	F. A. Scarvie
1904	Ballard, Wash.	W. F. McDowell	"
1905	Portland, Ore.	H. Spellmeyer	Joseph Olsen
1906	Everett, Wash.	H. W. Warren	"
1907	Seattle, Wash.	David H. Moore	"
1908	Spokane, Wash.	Edwin H. Hughes	"
1909	Ballard, Wash.	Chas. W. Smith	F. A. Scarvie
1910	Tacoma, Wash.	"	"
1911	Oakland, Calif.	Edwin H. Hughes	"
1912	Portland (Vanc.)	R. J. Cooke	"
1913	Astoria, Wash.	"	"
1914	Seattle, Wash.	"	"
1915	San Francisco, Calif.	Edwin H. Hughes	"
1916	Tacoma, Wash.	Mat. S. Hughes	"
1917	Everett, Wash.	"	"
1918	Bellingham, Wash.	W. O. Shepard (C. J. Larsen)	"
1919	Seattle (First)	Mat. S. Hughes	Abraham Vereide
1920	Portland (First)	W. O. Shepard	"
1921	Seattle (Emanuel)	"	"
1922	Portland (Vanc.)	Chas. W. Burns	H. P. Nelsen
1923	Los Angeles, Calif.	Adna W. Leonard	"
1924	San Francisco, Calif.	Eben S. Johnson	Abraham Vereide
1925	Aberdeen, Wash.	W. O. Shepard	"
1926	Everett, Wash.	Chas. W. Burns	J. G. Bringdale
1927	Oakland, Calif.	T. B. Nicholson	H. P. Nelsen
1928	Tacoma, Wash.	Chas. W. Burns	"
1929	Seattle (Emanuel)	Titus Lowe	H. E. Andersen
1930	Bellingham, Wash.	W. E. Brown	"
1931	San Francisco, Calif.	Fredrick Leete	"
1932	Portland (Vanc.)	J. Ralph Magee	"
1933	Eureka, Calif.	James C. Baker	F. Engebretsen
1934	Portland (First)	"	Martin T. Larson

Sessions of the Conference—Continued

Year	Place	Bishop	Secretary
1935	Los Angeles, Calif.	J. Ralph Magee	H. E. Andersen
1936	Seattle (First)	James C. Baker	"
1937	Oakland, Calif.	"	"
1938	San Pedro, Calif.	G. Bromley Oxnam	"
1939	San Francisco, Calif.	James C. Baker	"

A total of fifty-two sessions.



The Norwegian-Danish Theological Seminary, Evanston, Illinois

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CONFERENCE ROLL



OF HONORED DEAD

"They rest from their labors and their works do follow them."

- P. A. Paulsen, Norway, 1859; Richfield, Utah, 1891; Effective.
 C. L. Westberg, Norway, 1858; Portland, Oregon, 1896; Retired.
 Martin Hansen, Norway, 1826; Seattle, Wash., 1907; Retired.
 John Jacobsen, Norway, 1837; Oakland, Calif., 1908; Retired.
 C. Lyng Hanson, Norway, 1865; Seattle, Wash., 1913; Effective.
 O. O. Twede, Norway, 1860; Los Gatos, Calif., 1926; Retired.
 N. L. Hansen, Denmark, 1858; Seattle, Wash., 1927; Retired.
 C. N. Hauge, Norway, 1847; San Francisco, Calif., 1928; Retired.
 O. A. Doblough, Norway, 1880; Los Angeles, Calif., 1933; Retired.
 H. S. Haver, Norway, 1880; San Francisco, Calif., 1933; Effective.
 R. P. Petersen, Denmark, 1868; Tacoma, Wash., 1933; Effective.
 E. J. Lundegaard, Norway, 1859; Stockton, Calif., 1933; Retired.
 C. J. Larsen, Norway, 1849; Marshfield, Oregon, 1934; Retired.
 John O. Hall, Norway, 1871; Evanston, Ill., 1935; Supernumerary.
 C. Aug. Peterson, Norway, 1856; Cove, Wash., 1937; Retired.
 Martinus Nelson, Norway, 1855; San Jose, Calif., 1939; Retired (California Conference).
 F. A. Scarvie, Norway, 1859; Seattle, Wash., 1939; Retired (Pacific Northwest Conference).
 F. Engebretsen, Norway, 1874; San Pedro, Calif., 1940; Retired (Southern California Conference).
 O. T. Field, Norway, 1867; Bellingham, Wash., 1940; Retired (Pacific Northwest Conference).

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STATISTICAL ITEMS AS OF 1938

Total Cash Payments for All Purposes	\$ 2,190.00
World Service on Apportionment	1,620.00
Woman's Foreign Missionary Society	501.00
Conference Claimants	1,113.00
Total Other Items	1,693.00
Conference Sustentation Fund (Home Mission)	1,306.00
Grand Total	6,315.00
Total Salary Paid	17,000.00
Total Ministerial Support	18,784.00
Church Membership	1,323
Probationers	56
Church Schools	1,250
Youth Groups	766
Amount Contributed by the Woman's Society of Christian Service	\$ 5,318.00
Value of Church Property	450,000.00
Paid for Buildings and Improvements	4,588.00
Paid on Old Indebtedness	1,858.00
Preaching Places	35
Ministers (Active)	15
Ministers (Supplies)	4
Ministers (Retired)	5
Local Preachers	7
Ministers Aid Society (H. P. Nelsen, Treasurer)	\$10,997.00

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